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URBAN DISTRICT OF STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN.

ANNUAL REPORT
on the work of the
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT
for the year
1958



R. W. MARKHAM, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.,

(Medical Officer of Health).

J. DUNCAN SMITH, M.A.P.H.I.

(Public Health Inspector).

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STOURPORT-ON-SEVERN URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Chairman: Mr. J. W. Bullock.
Vice-Chairman: Mr. R. F. Abbotts.

Members of the Council:

Mr. W. J. Ariss	Mr. R. R. Hutton.
Mr. W. A. Coley, J.P.	Mr. S. James.
Mr. D. A. Evans	Mr. A. J. Millington, B.A.
Mr. G. T. P. Gregory	Mrs. N. M. L. Millington.
Mr. T. J. Higgins	Mrs. F. Pratt
Mr. P. N. Higgs	Mr. R. G. Ready
Mr. C. H. Hodgson	

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL.

Medical Officer of Health:

Dr. R. W. Markham, B.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.
The Council House,
New Street,
Stourport-on-Severn.

Telephone Number - Stourport-on-Severn 2318.

Public Health Inspector:

Mr. H. Maddock, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H.
until 30th September, 1958.
Mr. J. Duncan Smith, M.A.P.H.I.
from 1st October, 1958.

Public Health Clerk.

Mrs. I. M. Mann.



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ANNUAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Stourport-on-Severn Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1958.

The report is divided into the following sections:-

- 'A' Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.
- 'B' General Provision of Health Services for the Area.
- 'C' Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.
- 'D' Housing.
- 'E' Inspection and Supervision of Food.
- 'F' Prevalence of and Control over Infectious Diseases.

Main Occupations of the Area.

The principal industries of the area comprise the manufacture of carpets, ceramic insulators, sheet steel, chains for many purposes, wire, cable fans, forges, furnaces, timber production, electric transformers, a tannery and a vinegar works.

In addition there are:-

- (a) Three large Oil Companies engaged in the storage and distribution of petrol and oil.
- (b) One company engaged in the bulk storage and distribution of imported timber.

All the timber and the majority of the petrol and oil arrives by boat from Avonmouth, Stourport-on-Severn being the head of the portion of the River Severn which is navigable by commercial traffic.

There is also one of the largest Power Stations in the Midlands.

SECTION 'A'.

AREA IN ACRES	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3218
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (end of 1958) according to rate books.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3564
RATEABLE VALUE	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£114,980
SUM REPRESENTED BY ONE PENNY RATE	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	£468
REGISTRAR GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF RESIDENT POPULATION (mid 1958)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	11,190

LIVE BIRTHS.

	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>TOTALS.</u> <u>1957</u>
LEGITIMATE	85	76	161	182
ILLEGITIMATE	2	2	4	8
	87	78	165	190

THE BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated population
for the Urban District was

14.7 17.2

THE BIRTH RATE for England and Wales for
the same period was

16.4 16.1

<u>STILL BIRTHS.</u>	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957.</u>
LEGITIMATE	2	1	3	3
ILLEGITIMATE	1	1	2	1
	3	2	5	4

THE STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total
live and still births was 30.3 21.05

THE STILL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 total
live and still births for England
and Wales for the same period was 21.6 22.40

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS. Male - 90 Female - 80 Total - 170

DEATHS.

	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957.</u>
Total Deaths	50	44	94	97
THE DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated population was			8.4	8.8
THE DEATH RATE for the whole of England and Wales per 1,000 population was			11.7	11.5
MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion)			Nil	Nil
MATERNITY MORTALITY RATE for the year per 1,000 births (live and still) was			Nil	Nil
MATERNITY MORTALITY RATE for England and Wales for the same period was			0.43	0.47

<u>DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR.</u>	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>	<u>1958</u>	<u>1957.</u>
LEGITIMATE	3	-	3	2
ILLEGITIMATE	-	-	-	-
	3	-	3	2

NEONATAL MORTALITY.

The deaths of infants under four weeks number 3 representing a rate of 18.2 per 1,000 live births.

The deaths of infants under four weeks in England and Wales during 1958 represented a rate of 16.2 per 1,000 related live births.

CAUSES OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR.

- 1 Male - Atelactasis, Prematurity, Mediastinal Cyst.
- 1 Male - Prematurity.
- 1 Male - Prematurity, Toxaemia of Pregnancy.

THE INFANT MORTALITY RATE for the year was	<u>1958.</u> 18.2	<u>1957.</u> 26.3
THE INFANT MORTALITY RATE for the same period for England and Wales was	22.5	23.0
INFANT MORTALITY rate per 1,000 live Births - Legitimate	12.4	
Illogitimate	NIL.	

Illegitimate live Births per cent of total
live births.

2.42

	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	12	12
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Nil	Nil

Ref.

No. CAUSES OF DEATHS (including transferable deaths).

	<u>MALE.</u>	<u>FEMALE.</u>
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory.	2	-
10. Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach.	2	1
11. Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus.	4	-
12. Malignant Neoplasm, Breast.	-	1
14. Other Malignant & Lymphatic . Neoplasms.	6	10
17. Vascular Lesions of Nervous System.	6	7
18. Coronary Disease, Angina.	5	2
19. Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	2
20. Other Heart Disease.	5	7
21. Other Circulatory Disease.	-	1
23. Pneumonia.	3	1
24. Bronchitis.	5	3
25. Other Diseases of the Respiratory System.	1	-
29. Hyperplasia of Prostate.	1	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases.	5	5
34. All other Accidents.	1	4
35. Suicide.	2	-

S E C T I O N ' B ' .

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF THE HEALTH SERVICE FOR THE AREA.

Laboratory Services.

Producer samples of milk and water are examined by the County Laboratory, Worcester, together with food for chemical analysis. The major part of the bacteriological and pathological work is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Ambulance Service.

This service is administered by the County Council as Local Health Authority, and based in Kidderminster. An ambulance for infectious cases is stationed at Hayley Green Isolation Hospital (under the control of the Regional Hospital Board).

Hospitals.

All hospitals are administered by the Birmingham Regional Hospital Board, through their Management Committee. The Kidderminster General Hospital receives the majority of hospital patients from this district. The Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital provides the district and surrounding area with maternity beds.

Cases admitted during the year...	...	436
Women delivered	...	359
Infants born alive ..	...	351
Infants deaths	...	3
Infants stillborn	...	10
Maternal deaths	...	Nil
Cases of Puerperal Pyrexia	...	16
Cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	...	Nil

Infectious Diseases.

Beds for infectious diseases are provided at Hayley Green Isolation Hospital, Halesowen. Two cases from Stourport-on-Severn Urban District were admitted during the year, one of Meningitis and one of Scarlet Fever.

Tuberculosis.

Out-patient treatment is provided at the Kidderminster Hospital Dispensary where Dr. Cronin attends on Tuesday evenings, Wednesday mornings and Thursday afternoons. In-patients' treatment is arranged at Knightwick Sanatorium and St. Wulstan's Sanatorium, Malvern. Prevention and after-care remain the responsibility of the Local Health Authority, and the

service is administered locally by the After-Care Sub-Committee of the Divisional Area Health Committee.

Venereal Disease.

Treatment and 'follow-up' are carried out at the following:-

Kidderminster and District General Hospital.

Worcester Royal Infirmary.

Other neighbouring hospitals as required.

Nursing in the Home.

The service is administered by the Local Health Authority.

There are:-

1. Three nurses who deal principally with Midwifery and General Nursing. A car is provided.
2. (a) Stourport excluding Wilden and Burlish.

A whole time Health Visitor and School Nurse who attends school medical inspections, treats minor ailments at the school clinic and visits cases of mental defect. She visits infants and children in the home and is responsible for their welfare from 14 days until they attend school at 5 years, when she continues to supervise under the school scheme. She attends all Infant Welfare Clinics in this district.

-
- (b) Wilden and Burlish.

A whole time Health Visitor whose duties are shared with the adjoining area of Kidderminster, who supervises the Burlish area and Wilden including the school clinic and also attends the Infant Welfare Clinic at the Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital.

-
-
3. A whole time Health Visitor who visits cases of Tuberculosis.

Clinics.

- (a) Ante-Natal.

Ante-Natal Clinics are held every Tuesday and Thursday afternoons at the Lucy Baldwin Maternity Hospital, in the charge of Doctors MacArthur, C.Mackie, Winter, Black, W.T.Mackie and Matron respectively. A clinic is also

held by the District Midwives on the second and fourth Monday in each month.

(b) Infant Welfare.

- (i) Lucy Baldwin held first and third Fridays in the month.
- (ii) Wilden held third Wednesday in the month.
- (iii) Areley Kings held in the Parish Hall, Areley Kings on the second and fourth Thursday afternoons.
(In the charge of Dr. Winter).

Children under five are immunised at these clinics and vaccination is carried out as required.

In addition poliomyelitis vaccination was given to those 'under fives' whose parents had requested it, in accordance with the supply of vaccine available.

SECTION 'C'.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply.

The majority of dwellings in the area are supplied with water from the Council's mains. The source of supply is deep bore belonging to Bewdley Corporation, the storage resevoirs are situated at Mount Pleasant.

Samples taken regularly from the general mains for chemical analysis and bacteriological examination have proved to be satisfactory.

The booster pump installed to improve the supplies to Wilden Top came into operation on the 30th June, 1958. This appears to have rectified the trouble and supplies are now adequate.

Difficulties of supply in the Areley Kings area have been increasing steadily, and became serious during this year.

The Council decided to take expert advice, and will consider what action to take to increase the amount of water available at peak demand periods when the report is received.

Drainage and Sewerage.

Disposal of sewage at the Oldington Disposal Works used jointly with the Boroughs of Kidderminster and Bewdley has continued satisfactorily.

SECTION 'D'.

HOUSING.

35 Houses were completed by the Council during the year and 81 by private enterprise.

Number of Council houses in the Urban District.	1229
Number of hutted dwellings requisitioned by Council.	32
Number of houses requisitioned by Council.	Nil
Number of applicants for Council houses.	255
Number of above applicants who are living in lodgings.	140
Approximate total number of persons represented by application list.	700

With regard to houses considered unfit for human habitation in the district, 3 Closing Orders were made.

Number of families rehoused from condemned properties - 4.

Burlish Estate.

At the end of the year 32 converted bungalows were still inhabited, the majority of them by families of Polish origin.

Titton Shack Area.

The conditions in this area remain unchanged.

Walshes Farm Areas.

(a) The Council's Camping Site.

This site contained approximately twenty caravans and 180 tents during the holiday period despite the rather wet season. It is pleasing to report that the Council has found it possible to convert half the sanitary accommodation to water carriage and it is to be hoped that the remaining work will be carried out in the near future.

(b) Haywood's Meadow.

This site is occupied by approximately 150 holiday caravans, bungalows and similar structures and during the August holidays a large number of tents occupy the recreation area of the field.

On renewal of the site licence the owner was required to provide improved facilities for campers.

Houseboats.

During the past year no serious complaint has been received arising from the occupation of houseboats in the basins.

S E C T I O N ' E ' .

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Ice Cream Manufacture.

The number of manufacturers of Ice Cream on the register is five, and the number of retailers of Ice Cream is forty-seven. Regular samples have been taken from the manufacturers and these have proved satisfactory.

Food Poisoning.

No cases of Food Poisoning have occurred during the year in this Urban District.

Adulteration of Foods.

Mr. Spencer, Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures, Worcestershire County Council, reports that the following samples were taken during the year:-

Milk samples	102
Miscellaneous samples.	108
Drug samples	1

15 of the milk samples were low in fat content, but generally speaking, the composite fat content of the total consignment containing a churn or churns of milk low in fat content was satisfactory. No further action was necessary but producers were told of the deficiencies. 12 Milk samples were low in solids not fat due to natural causes, their freezing point being satisfactory.

11 of the miscellaneous samples were reported against as follows:-

- 2 Marzipan containing no ground Almonds - old stock taken off sale.
- 1 Pork luncheon meat having low meat content - no action
(this was one of a number of these products taken
in connection with an official enquiry).
- 1 Meat savouries low in meat content - name of article changed.
- 1 French Mustard with wine not having ingredients declared on
label - relabelled.
- 1 Currants infested with larvae - reported to Health Department
and taken off sale,
- 1 Cream of Leek Soup powder with low fat content - label now
changed leaving out 'Cream of'.
- 3 Sausage low in meat content - manufacturers notified.
(considered not low enough for prosecution).
- 1 Pie Meat being really spiced mince containing preservative -
seller notified.

Now selling product as minced meat, without preservative.

In addition to the above samples, 237 samples of milk were taken at a dairy in Bewdley, from which dairy a large amount of milk is retailed in Stourport-on-Severn. 53 of these samples were low in fat but again in most instances the composite fat content of the whole consignment was satisfactory. Producers were notified of deficiencies. 48 samples were low in solids not fat but had genuine freezing points.

SECTION 'F'.

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of children immunised for the first time during the year, either at clinics, schools or by General Practitioners, was as follows:-

Pre-School Children	151
School Children	6
Reinforcing Doses	85

General.

Cases of infectious diseases notified during the year are shown in the following table:-

Diseases	Total Cases Notified.	Cases Admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles	3	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	16	-	-
Whooping Cough	39	-	-
Primary Pneumonia	3	-	-
Erysipelas	3	-	-
Scarlet Fever	14	1	-
Tuberculosis	7	5	2

Tuberculosis.

The following table gives particulars of new cases of Tuberculosis and deaths from the disease in the area during the year:-

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 -	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-
25 -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 -	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 -	2	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	4	3	1	-	2	-	-	-

B.C.G. Inoculations.

The County Council scheme for the testing and inoculation of susceptible children in their thirteenth year continued satisfactorily and the following are the figures for the year:-

Number of consents for testing and inoculation . .	210
Percentage	89.7%
Number tested	207
Result Positive.	25
Result Negative	182
Percentage Positive.	12%
Vaccinated	181

Conclusion.

The Wilden Area is now receiving more adequate water supply since the Booster Pump came into operation. It is to be hoped that the Consulting Engineer will be able to suggest a suitable method of adjusting supplies to the Areley Kings Area.

The serious problem remaining for the Council is the drainage of the Lower Heath Area and it would appear that nothing short of a full scheme including a new pumping station will suffice.

I should like to thank the Chairman, all Members of the Council and the Council's Staff for their help and co-operation during the year.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. W. MARKHAM.

Medical Officer of Health.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1958.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Stourport-on-Severn Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the report of the Public Health Inspector for the year 1958. Until September 1958 the post was held by Mr. H. Maddock who left to take up an appointment with another local authority and I commenced my duties on the 1st October, 1958. The matters detailed in these pages, therefore, relate mainly to work dealt with by my predecessor and my personal contribution included only the last three months of the year.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Refuse Collection.

The maintenance of a weekly collection of refuse throughout the year has been achieved without any major difficulties although the usual problems occurred at the holiday times and also during the worst of the winter months when the sickness rate was, on occasions, rather high. During the severest weather matters were alleviated by the temporary employment on refuse collection of some of the road sweepers, the latter being unable to operate due to the frozen conditions of the roads, and our thanks are due to the Surveyor for his co-operation in this matter.

Collection of refuse is carried out by Shelvoke and Drewry vehicles and the small side loader was replaced in April 1958 by a new Fore and Aft Tipper similar to the one purchased in 1952. These two vehicles deal with most of the refuse collection, the exceptions being the few bins remaining at the Burlish Camp, the Lower Heath Caravan area and a few other scattered properties in the outlying areas which are served by the Karrier Bantam low loader.

Responsibility for the provision of dustbins in rented properties continued to result in disputes between owners and occupiers and on two occasions during the year appeals to the local Magistrates' Court were made by owners against notices served by this Authority. In both instances the Magistrates ruled that the notices were properly served on the owners and no further appeal was made to higher court. This difficult question as to who should replace the defective dustbin is one which often results in considerable hard feelings on both sides, particularly in the low rented, controlled properties, and it would appear that the only real solution lies in the provision and maintenance of all dustbins by the local authority in the manner suggested by my

predecessor in his 1957 Report.

Trade Refuse.

The arrangements for the collection of trade refuse remain as in the past in that all premises are entitled to have one bin emptied weekly free of charge and all other bins are charged at the rate of 20s/- per half year per bin for a weekly collection.

Facilities for the disposal of trade refuse, by the persons' own transport continue to be provided at the Council's refuse tip and a tipping charge of 2s/6d. per load or part load is made.

Refuse Disposal.

Refuse disposal is carried out by controlled tipping at the conveniently situated Bonemill Sand Quarry which is, in my opinion, one of the best sites one could ever hope to obtain for this purpose. it is reached from the main Kidderminster Road by a good cinder access road, has ample supplies of covering materials available, is well removed from all habitation and is adequately screened from the main road.

The site of present operations is adjoining the canal at the part furthest from the road and the banks of earth left from the quarrying operations, together with natural undulations, provide ideal screening and also help to prevent the dispersal, by high winds, of paper from the tip face. Covering of the tip is done with ashes obtained from the Power Station, which provides a good surface for the vehicles to run on, and the tip face is covered either with earth obtained on the site or by means of soil or other suitable material brought in by contractors for disposal. Tip fires are an ever present hazard with this method of refuse disposal and it is the policy to ensure that all surfaces of the tip are completely sealed at the end of each working week as the danger of fires being started by trespassers is particularly prevalent at the weekends. The one serious tip fire which occurred during the year required three visits from the Fire Brigade and the cutting of deep trenches by a bulldozer to get at the seat of the trouble, before it was finally extinguished.

During the summer months fly nuisance occurring in the part of the town nearest to the refuse tip caused suspicion to be directed towards our disposal site but no evidence of any breeding was found and regular treatment of the tip face with a pressure type insecticidal powder blower was maintained throughout the fly breeding season. Subsequent enquiries indicated the probable source of the trouble to be certain private properties where livestock was being kept and the appropriate action was taken to alleviate the nuisance.

SALVAGE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

Waste Paper.

Arrangements for the collection of waste paper remained as previously; the separate collection from shops and other trade premises by the Karrier Bantam and domestic salvage being taken by the refuse collectors when the dustbins are emptied. It will be seen that the total quantity of waste paper collected during 1958 shows an increase of 24 tons over that for 1957 (waste paper and container waste) although due to the downward trend of prices the total income does not show a corresponding increase. For the greater part of 1957 we received £7.5s.0d. per ton for baled waste paper and £8.0s.0d. per ton for separated container waste, whereas in 1958 the price dropped in May to £6.10s.0d., which was further reduced in December to £6.0s.0d. per ton, and the practice of paying a higher rate for the container waste was discontinued.

Scrap Metal.

The demand for tins, which produced a useful income in 1957, disappeared almost completely and the price dropped from £5.0s.0d. per ton down to a few shillings, until finally this type of salvage became completely unsaleable. It became extremely difficult to dispose of light scrap at any price and the value of cast iron scrap was also reduced.

Details of Salvageable Material Sold During 1958.

	<u>1958 Weight.</u>			<u>1958 Amount Realised.</u>			<u>1957 Amount.</u>		
	Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	£.	s.	d.
Waste Paper	117	0	2	776	16	7	590	18	10
Container Waste	-	-	-	-	-	-	82	14	-
Jacquards	3	19	-	15	16	-	4	10	9
Cast Iron	3	-	-	21	-	-	134	11	9
Steel	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	-
Light Scrap Metal	5	9	2	36	19	2	6	17	3
Tins	16	5	3	59	9	4	133	10	10
Rags, String etc.				1	5	-	1	8	6
Aluminium					18	-	-	-	-
Mixed Tin Scrap				5	-	-	-	-	-
				£917	4	1	£957	14	11

Cleansing of Pail Closets and Cesspools.

There are approximately 115 pail closets in the Urban District which are emptied weekly, and the greater portion of these are in the

Lower Heath area. The question of provision of sewers in this area is at present under consideration by the Council and the advice of a Consulting Engineer is to be obtained. The layout and levels of the ground, however, are of such a nature in relation to the existing sewerage system, that any scheme is likely to be an expensive proposition.

Cesspools at domestic premises are emptied free of charge on request and in the case of trade premises the charge is £1 per hour for the vehicle and labour. The vehicle used is a Dennis 800 gallon Cesspool/Gulley Emptyer.

Requests for the emptying of cesspools in the areas of neighbouring local authorities are occasionally received and wherever possible this is done and the charge levied on the hourly basis to the Authority concerned.

Details of Revenue from Private Work.

Chargeable work outside the district ...	£106.10s.0d.
Chargeable work inside the district ...	£44.10s.0d.

Outdoor Staff Employed on Public Cleansing.

- 2 Refuse Freighter Driver/Loaders.
- 1 Driver (Salvage etc.)
- 6 Refuse Loaders.
- 2 Tip Men.
- 1 Salvage Baler,
- 1 Gulley/Cesspool Emptyer Driver.
- 1 Gulley/Cesspool Emptyer Attendant.

RODENT CONTROL.

Regular surveys of all types of properties were made during the year by the Council's Rodent Operative and full treatments were carried out in the case of all infestations discovered. Private dwellinghouses are treated free of charge whilst in the case of trade premises a charge is made based on time and materials, or under annual contract. There were three such contracts undertaken during the year amounting to an annual sum of £60.

Test baiting of the sewers was carried out during the months of October and November revealing some minor infestations in the town which were treated and cleared up. In the Burlish Camp area, however, the problems were more acute due to the general condition of the sewers, many sections of which are now out of use. Demolition operations have resulted in damage to many of the inspection covers and rats have been able to gain easy access. The end of the use of this area for

temporary housing is now in sight and care must be taken to ensure that the disused drainage and sewerage systems are finally demolished, sealed or removed or considerable future nuisance could be the result.

The Council's Refuse Tip and the Sewage Pumping Stations continued to receive regular attention as these places are always particularly attractive to rodents.

Summary of Work Carried out during 1958.

<u>Type of Premises.</u>	<u>Number of Treatments.</u>
Local Authority's property	25
Agricultural property	10
Business Premises	43
Dwellinghouses	457

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The unsatisfactory weather conditions prevailing during the recent Summer did, without doubt, have an effect on the number of people using the riverside amenities but on fine days, particularly at the weekends, the usual congestion was seen to occur at the Bridge Street Conveniences. The large block of conveniences in the Severn Meadows, which have now been in use for three summer seasons, are still not being used to anything like capacity and I feel that they are not easily enough seen by the general public. The provision of direction signs on the river bank and the fixing of a prominent sign on the building itself would, I feel, help considerably in this respect.

Vandalism, particularly at the Bridge Street Conveniences, still continued to result in considerable damage to fixtures and fittings, and defacement of the internal surfaces of the W.C. compartments was also prevalent. When attempts are made to force the locks in order to reach the cash contained therein the motives have at least a basis of reason but in many of the senseless acts which are committed the prompting factors are completely beyond comprehension.

The Lion Hill Public Conveniences are to be completely renovated and redecorated during 1959 and the necessary sum is to be included in the estimates for this purpose.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION.

The Clean Air Act of 1956 became fully operative in 1958 and regulations relating to the omission of dark smoke also came into force. No serious complaints were received during the year with the

exception of one concerning a local factory where a complete breakdown of the induced draught system had occurred. This was quickly put right and no further nuisance was reported.

No grit deposit gauges were maintained as in previous years but it is the intention to resume collection of this data in the coming year.

The Central Electricity Generating Board Power Station is, of course, the largest single fuel consuming plant in the area and it is interesting to record that this consumes approximately half a million tons of coal per annum. The enforcement of the provisions of the Clean Air Act in respect of this establishment does not now rest with this local Authority but is the direct responsibility of the Alkali Inspectorate of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

H O U S I N G.

Inspection of house property and the securing of necessary repairs and improvements again formed an important part of the work of the Department but in most instances it was found possible to achieve the desired result without the need for statutory action. Procedure under the Rent Act 1957, whereby tenants served with notices of rent increase can make application for certificates of disrepair, was not used to any great extent and it does seem that the rather complicated procedure involved is the deterring factor.

The following are details of the applications for certificates of disrepair received during 1958:-

No. of applications received	...	13
No. of applications approved by Local Authority	...	13
No. of undertakings received from owners	...	9
No. of certificates actually issued	...	3

Remedy of Defects during the Year without the service of Formal Notices.

No. of dwellinghouses at which defects were remedied ... 15

Action under Statutory Powers during the Year.

(a) Proceedings under Sections 16, 17 and 18 of the Housing Act 1957.

- | | | |
|-----|---|-----|
| (1) | No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which
Demolition Orders were made | 3 |
| (2) | No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which
Closing Orders were made | 2 |
| (3) | No. of undertakings not to relet accepted | Nil |
| (4) | No. of houses demolished following
Statutory action... .. | 3 |

(b) Proceedings under the Public Health Acts.

- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| (1) | No. of dwellinghouses in respect of which
formal notices were served requiring defects
to be remedied | 4 |
| (2) | Number of houses in which defects were
remedied following formal notices | 4 |

(c) Proceedings under Part III of the Housing Act 1957 (Clearance Areas).

During the year under review no action was taken under this heading but in the case of the Mitton Street Clearance Area, which was dealt with under the 1936 Housing Act, a Compulsory Purchase Order has now been made and a scheme is being prepared for erection of Old People's Dwellings on the site.

SUMMARY OF REPAIRS EFFECTED FOLLOWING
PRELIMINARY OR STATUTORY ACTION.

Structural Repairs	1
Roof Repairs	12
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	2
Rainwater pipes repaired or renewed	2
Windows or doors repaired	9
Dampness remedied	1
Wall and ceiling plaster repaired	9
W.C.Pans renewed	1
W.C.Fittings repaired or renewed	2
W.C.Structures repaired	1
Burst pipes repaired	1
Drains unblocked and cleansed	11
Drains repaired or ventilated	4
New drainage system installed	1
Public sewers unblocked and cleansed	62

Houses disinfested	9
Houses disinfected	12
Floor boards repaired or replaced	3
Fire grates repaired or replaced	4
Washing facilities provided	2
New dustbins provided after notice	6
New dustbins provided - by Council on request.	27

FOOD AND DRUGS ADMINISTRATION.

1. Food Hygiene.

Visits to food premises in the Urban District were made whenever opportunity permitted but again it was not found possible to carry out a regular systematic inspection of all such establishments. Informal notices were served in five instances, the response in each case being prompt and satisfactory.

In the case of a factory canteen, considerable trouble was being experienced with an infestation of "steam flies" which were well established and had apparently defied all efforts to seriously dislodge them over a number of years. I was able to secure the loan of an electrically driven insecticidal mist generator and after two applications by this means the pests appeared to have been completely eradicated. Similar results were also obtained at a bakery premises and it is now the intention to purchase one of these machines for the use of the Department.

2. Meat Inspection.

There are two small licensed slaughterhouses in the district, one in Lombard Street dealing only with pigs, sheep and calves and the other in Manor Road where cattle are also slaughtered. The meat produced, which is of a high quality, represents only a small proportion of the total sold, the greater amount being brought in from other areas.

The Slaughter of Animals (Prevention of Cruelty) Regulations 1958 and the Slaughterhouses (Hygiene) Regulations 1958 were approved by Parliament in December 1958, the same to be operative from the 1st January, 1959. The regulations are immediately applicable in full so far as new slaughterhouses are concerned, but in the case of existing slaughterhouses certain parts of the regulations, relating to structural matters and the provision of stunning pens, will be operative on dates to be appointed by the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

ANIMALS INSPECTED.

	Cattle Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses.
NUMBER KILLED	74	Nil	1	1058	539	Nil
NUMBER INSPECTED	66	Nil	1	757	472	Nil
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS AND CYSTICERCI.</u>						
Whole Carcass Condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	3	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	4	Nil	Nil	8	10	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci.	6.07	Nil	Nil	1.06	2.75	Nil
<u>TUBERCULOSIS ONLY.</u>						
Whole carcass condemned.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	2	Nil	Nil	Nil	5	Nil
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis.	3.03	Nil	Nil	Nil	1.06	Nil
CYSTICEROCIS.	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

3. Other Foods.

Visits to premises in connection with the inspection of other foods numbered twenty-six and surrender was accepted of the following items, which were found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Canned Fruit	208 tins
" " Juice	11 "
" Vegetables	58 "
" Tomatoes	63 "
" Fish	227 "
" Meat	82 "
" Milk	13 "
" Soup	2 "
" Whole Chicken	1 "
" Tomato Juice	2 "
" Creamed Rice	2 "
Jellied Veal	6 lbs.
Bacon	11 lbs.
Corned Beef	252 lbs.
Cooked Ham	21 lbs.
Currants	12 lbs.
Kippers	1 box
Smoked Haddock	1 box
Fish Cakes	1 box
New Zealand Lamb	1 carcass
Pork Luncheon Meat	4 lbs.
Strawberries	36 lbs.
New Potatoes	2 bags.
Pork	1 carcass.

All foodstuffs surrendered as unsound and unfit for human consumption were disposed of by burying at a suitable depth under the refuse on the Council's refuse tip.

4. Milk Supply.

Stourpport-on-Severn is situated in a Specified Area in accordance with the Milk (Special Designation) Act, 1949, which means that only designated milk, i.e. Pastourised, Sterilised or Tuberculin Tested, is permitted to be sold by retail. There are no treatment plants in the Urban District and the local dairymen act only as distributors of bottled supplies brought in from outside. There are also a number of milk retailers from other areas who sell milk under Supplementary Licences issued by this Local Authority.

Number of Registered Distributors 11

Licences Granted.

Dealer Licences:-

Tuberculin Tested	6
Sterilised	6
Pasteurised	6

Supplementary Licences:-

Tuberculin Tested	5
Sterilised	5
Pasteurised	5

5. Ice Cream.

There are only two manufacturers of ice cream at present operating in the Urban District and both are making the complete cold mix, although one has equipment suitable for the hot mix in accordance with the Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations, 1947. There are in addition forty-seven premises registered for retail sale and storage only.

Three samples of ice cream manufactured in the district were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Public Health Laboratory, Worcester and all were reported as being Grade I. The greater quantity of ice cream sold by the registered retailers is produced by the larger concerns, many of them of National repute, and is generally of a high standard of quality and purity.

6. Food and Drugs Act 1955 - Section 16.

Registration of premises used for the manufacture of prepared foods:-

Number on register ... 7

DETAILS OF TYPES OF FOOD MANUFACTURED.

<u>No. of premises.</u>	<u>Food Manufactured.</u>
1	Sausage, cooked meats and meat pies.
1	Sausage only.
3	Sausage and pickled tongues.
1	Meat pickling.
1	Cooked Ham only.

Number of inspections made ... 3

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES IN THE AREA.

<u>Type of Business.</u>	<u>No.</u>
Works Canteens	7
Restaurants	7
School Kitchens	2
Bakehouses	2
Bakery and Confectionery	7
Grocers and Provision Merchants	15
General Food Shops	25
Sweet Shops	7
Greengrocers	3
Greengrocers and Fish Shops	4
Butchers Shops	10
Cooked Meats	2
Fish Friers	5
Licensed Premises (including Clubs and Off-Licences)	44
Snack Bars	4
Mobile Canteens	2
Mobile Fish Friers	1

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951.

There are two premises licensed as Pet Shops under the above mentioned Act.

CANAL BOATS.

There are no Canal Boats, as defined by Section 258 of the Public Health Act 1936, at present using the canal.

INFECTIOUS DISEASE ENQUIRIES.

Number of enquiries made 5
Number of rooms disinfected 12

Disinfectant is provided free to the occupiers of any house where a case of infectious disease has occurred. Rooms are disinfected where necessary or on request.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

There are no offensive trades within the meaning of Section 107 of the Public Health Act 1936 carried out in this district.

CARAVAN AND CAMPING SITES.

There are three privately owned caravan sites in the district and one site owned and administered by the Local Authority. On the three private sites the total number of caravans for which permission is granted is 192 and on one of these sites it has been the custom during the month of August to permit the pitching of tents in the area not occupied by the vans.

There is a good supply of piped water to all sites and two have water borne sanitation, whilst the other is provided with chemical sanitation. Renewal of planning consent and site licence was granted during the year in respect of one site and additional conditions were imposed requiring the provision of proper arrangements for the disposal of sullage water and the contents of chemical closets.

The Council's Caravan and Camping site at the Walshes Farm was originally provided with chemical sanitation only but it was found possible during the year to convert approximately half of the accommodation to water closets and it is hoped to be able to complete the other half during the coming year. The provision of a proper ring road round the site is also included amongst the improvements which it is hoped to carry out during 1959.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Total number of factories on Register	50
Factories with Mechanical Power	47
Factories with no Mechanical Power	3

The following is a summary of inspections made during the year with details of defects found and remedied:-

Total number of inspections 23

<u>Sanitary Conveniences.</u>	<u>Defects found</u>	<u>Defects remedied.</u>
(a) Insufficient	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-
(d) Other offences	-	-

Section 34.

There were no Certificates as to Means of Escape in Case of Fire issued during the year.

Outworkers.

There are no persons at present registered as outworkers.

REGISTER OF FACTORIES (31st DECEMBER, 1958).

Manufacturer of Agricultural Implements	1
Blacksmith	1
Builders Yard	3
Battery Reconstruction	1
Builders	2
Chaff Cutters	1
Carpet Manufacturers	1
Civil Engineers	1
Food Manufacturers	9
Gravel Pits	2
Gas Works	1
Manufacture of Chains	1
Milliner	1
Manufacture of Wood Articles	1
Manufacture of Ceramic Insulators	1
Manufacture of Electrical Components	3
Making of Lock Gates	1
Motor and Motor Cycle Engineers	4
Joinery	1
Concrete Blocks	1
Boat Building	1
Power Plant	1
Petrol Depots	2
Repair of Canal Boats	1
Steel Rolling Mill	1
Tannery	1
Timber Merchants	4
Vinegar Works	1
Wire Manufacturers	1

50

SUMMARY OF NOTICES SERVED.

Preliminary Notices.

Public Health Act 1936	13
Housing Act	13
Food Regulations	5
Prevention of Damage by Post	1

32

Statutory Notices.

Public Health Act 1936	
Section 75	6
Public Health Act 1936	
Section 39	2
Public Health Act 1936	
Section 93	1
	9

SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS - 1958.

Houses let in lodgings.	2
Housing Act - Inspections on complaint.	10
Housing Act - Routine.	19
Public Health Act - on complaint.	76
Housing Act - Routine.	270
Re-visits - Housing Act.	47
" - Public Health Act.	58
" - Others.	4
Work in progress.	30
Infectious Disease enquiries.	5
Food Shops - General.	20
Food Preparation Premises.	3
Bakehouses.	3
Restaurant and Canteen Kitchens.	13
Licensed Premises.	16
Ice Cream Dealers.	2
" " Manufacturers.	2
Itinerant Vendors.	9
Fish Friers.	1
Dairies.	2
Milk Distributors.	6
Factories Mechanical Power.	23
Places of Entertainment.	2
Caravan Sites.	17
Controlled Tip.	159
Piggeries.	8
Public Conveniences.	106
Survey for Infestation (P.D.P.A.1949)	
Business Premises.	1
" " " L.A. Property.	3
" " " Dwellinghouses.	15
" " " Agricultural Property.	3
Miscellaneous Inspections and Visits.	282
Visits to Inspect food.	30
Slaughterhouses - Meat Inspection.	180
" - Routine.	20
Ront Act 1957.	30
<u>Total Inspections.</u>	<u>1477</u>

I am,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. DUNCAN SMITH.

Public Health Inspector.

